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Approved For Release 2000/08/27 : CIA-RDP76-00183R000400060007-9

DIARY NOTES

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DD/S [REDACTED]

25 October 1963

1. At the Executive Committee Meeting this morning:

a. Dick Helms reported that Generals Quinn and Krulak were over yesterday to reassure General Carter and him that there were really no changes in the support arrangements with the Department of Defense, merely new people handling the job. Both General Carter and Dick expressed themselves as being satisfied with what they were told. (I gathered, however, that they were a little skeptical.)

b. The Director said that he had read [REDACTED]'s memorandum outlining what communications activities we are doing for ourselves and what we are doing for others and that he was not satisfied with it. He would like a much more comprehensive study which sets forth in terms of personnel, facilities, equipment, and budget the minimum acceptable level which will accommodate CIA requirements and what is required or planned to accommodate additional requirements. I discussed this with [REDACTED] shortly after the morning meeting, and the new study is under way.

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2. Bob Bannerman reported that he had a meeting yesterday with General Carroll on the question of security clearances for military personnel on duty at NPIC in accordance with CIA standards, including polygraph. General Carroll was cooperative, and the procedure will get under way promptly. The investigations will be completed first. Bob said it was obvious that General Carroll and General Blake had changed their attitude completely; and whereas heretofore they had pretty much ignored the Director's advice, whether they liked it or not they now realized that they had to do something about this and were anxious to get on with it.

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3. At Mr. Kirkpatrick's request I furnished him some statistics regarding the cost of [REDACTED] residences in Saigon.

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4. I reviewed with Emmett Echols and approved a paper on manpower controls which [REDACTED] is to use as a basis for his discussion of this subject with the Financial Policy and Budget Review Committee this afternoon.

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5. At the Executive Committee Meeting the Director addressed General Carter and John Bross to say that he wanted a complete new study prepared which would bring about a policy decision on what role this Agency is to play in the COMINT field. John and Ting Sheldon reported that a paper was coming up but that it addressed itself only to the [REDACTED] problem. They said that they thought this was the proper approach since previous exchanges between the Director and Mr. Gilpatric arranged that all such matters would be handled ad hoc. The Director said that he wanted to ignore these previous exchanges of correspondence and that he wanted the whole problem analyzed in such a way that the National Security Council could make the decision. The limits of the staff study will be CIA operation of all such activity or no CIA operation except for close support teams. General Carter said he was afraid that if NSA were given this responsibility, we would end up being their "dog robber"; i.e., furnishing all the administrative and logistical support. The Director said that if NSA were going to do this, we would not be in the picture on any of these things. It is his present view that if we are going to take on this job, we are going to do the whole thing; and if we are not going to take it on, then NSA can do the whole thing. (I passed this on to [REDACTED])

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6. I had a brief chat with [REDACTED]. Based on his conversation with [REDACTED] it seemed to be his impression that he was not being released because he was unsatisfactory but because the rearrangement of functions down there had left little for him to do. I told him that he should finish the job down there and then take as much leave as he wanted. Upon completion of his leave he should report to my staff where we will keep him busy until we can make a more permanent assignment. I told him that one thing I had in mind was a full-time job working on plans for movement into a downtown office building some two years hence.

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7. Jim Cunningham was in to talk with me about [REDACTED]. Jim would like very much to have [REDACTED] stay in place at the [REDACTED] and the latter is agreeable, provided it is okay with the Deputy Director (Support). I assured Jim that it would be. He then suggested that [REDACTED] be assigned to the Office of Special Activities to replace [REDACTED] now the Acting Chief of Support. He thinks highly of Bill but recognizes that he probably should leave the Office of Special Activities when his replacement is on board. I said that I would like to defer any decision on Bert at this time.

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